THE PHILOSOPHY OF GIVING PRESENTS.

and over a philosophical pipe contemplate in silent reverse the immense sum of enjoyment that in con-Mary or a dollar steam engine for her brother Fred is mental food enough to last through that great Turkish pipe of mine, loaded up to the brim. For I am still as much a selfish sybarite as when we were in Paris together five years ago, though in a little more harmless and reputable way. And the best of it is that I fine it even more delightfui."

species of the American homo. There is one thing that Americans enjoy even more than making as among the Moslem, with the glory of a religious law to which we all subscribe more heartly than to the precepts of the pulpit. Professional phrenolocharacters they invariably tell their client, among much sensible advice, and a few shrewd guesses as money much more easily than you can keep it.' This is always a trump card; the being sitting for his moral, intellectual and spiritual portrait in-stantly cries out, "That's so," and is on the whole convinced that though practical phrenology may not yet be a perfect and complete science it must be at least founded on many truthful and carefully

studied-out facts and observations.

But perhaps the same thing is true, in a more or less marked degree, of all mankind. "It is more blessed to give than to receive," said that Saviour whose birth we are in a few days going to commemorate. In many other lands, however, the hardness of gaining a livelihood has hardened men's hearts and narrowed them into a sad but no unnatural selfishness. But here, in this broad and and health, secure something above the bare cost of food and shelter, while to some the surplus income forts of civilized life is simply enormous. We must not, therefore, take to ourselves over much credit the universal impulse to open one's hand and taste

the sweets of un-eifishness.

To him who wishes to thoroughly enjoy Christmas there is no employment more delightful than a stroll at this season through our great thoroughtares of commerce. The stores seem lit up by the time into an exceptional gayety and brigatness. Fuller than their wont with all that can charm the eye or tempt the sense-many of them, indeed, strewing the sidewalk with their wares—crowded with purchasers and noisy with the pleasant murm urs of buying and selling—they are, indeed, in the happiness and kindly, genial spirit of which they are the proof, a sight for all who have been distempered by the rough usage of a pittless world. Even a defeated politician might look upon the show and take heart again, and believe in the goodness and humanity of the great mass of his fellow citizens. Apart, however, from all sentimental associations, and regarded simply as a spectacle, such a street as Broadway at Christmas is worth careful study. The gaudy colors of the holitary gitts, the moving crowds of sightseers and customers; the sur and bustle and confusion and noise and busy life that animate the picture, make up a scene of singularly pleasing brightness. How Mr. and Mrs. Bomn would be delighted if they could out enjoy a saunter through wares-crowded with purchasers and noisy with

billiards and early reveity, when their only rea-since has been to linger over-long on the road, king at the preity things in the shops and wish-tinat they were rich enough to make ten times as any gifts as they have already purcha-ed, and is delight the eyes and move the hearts of every

Where to Go.

Where to Go.

HE PHILOSOPHY OF GIVIN2 PRESENTS, animated Appearance of the Street—A mimated Appearance of the Street—A many of the street of the Stre

them make up a world of beauty and delight such as they have never seen except in dreams and at the theatre. But the older heads among them surewelly suspect that a long pause before some specially covered object may result in their finding it in their stocking on Christmas morning. This they have been taught by pievous experience, and their faces lighted up with gleams of an innocent covetousness they make a dead halt before the things that captivate their fancy most, and are only torn away by repeated admonitions to move on. They notice, however, that the eyes before which they are "posting" have fully understool what they desire most, and on again reaching the street enforce their wishes by dwelling with the extravagance of youthful ractoric upon the special toveliness and desirableness of the things for which they hanker. It is hardly necessary to add, however, that before they have gone very far, the list of objects thus tacitly agreed upon as coming benefits from the bounteous hands of Santa Claus has mounted up to unterly preposterous dimensions; and when at last the signiteers reach home the rest of the day is expended in comparing andibly the merits of the valous articles, and contrasting their relative value and decideding which can be best dispensed with.

pended in comparing andibly the merits of the value and decideding which can be best dispensed with.

Next to the toy stores the jewelry and fancy stores are the busiest centres of interest. By common consent and in order to avoid making too heavy demands upon the purse Unristmas gifts are generally selected from among that long list of elegant trifes which, although very pretty, cost but little. The great difficulty, however, is to select something that shall stand a lair chance of not being a duplicate of somebody else's contribution. It is positively amusing to watch some young gentleman absorbed in paintal deaberation over the slock of some great store, the is peatered every moment by the attentions and suggestions of the young salestady, who, with a lively nope of commissions, has fastened upon him from the moment he has entered the store, and runs over, in that monotonously pleasant voice so familiar to customers, the contents of the store, and runs over, in that monotonously pleasant voice so familiar to customers, the contents of the store, and runs over, in that monotonously pleasant voice so familiar to customers, the contents of the store, and runs over, in that monotonously pleasant voice so familiar to customers, the contents of the store, and runs over, in that monotonously pleasant voice so familiar to customers, the contents of the store, and runs over, in that monotonously pleasant voice so familiar to customers, the contents of the store, and runs over, in that monotonously pleasant voice so familiar to customers, the contents of the store is since the store of the store o

beef, now bright and red is the lean : and how dellciousiy yellow and firm the fat! and it turkey,
was there ever such a per-ectly wonderful specimen
of a well-bred and well-fed dindon! But then
there are besides the scores of other things to be
provided for the dinner. Among all families that
attil cherist English traditions, as so many American families do, a plum pudding is sure to be
given a place on the prospective bill of
fare. And as every one knows, who knows anything at all about it, the making of a perfect Christmas pium pudding is a task of fiercues. If manulactured according to the orthodox receipts it
should contain some score or so of various component elements, and the due weiguing and mixing
of these involves tremendous thought and labor.
The whole work, too, should be completed at least
twenty-four hours before the dinner, and it should
be salely deposited in the caldron and boiled for
hall a dozen hours or so on Ohristmas Eve, and
then allowed to cool and be again boiled on Christmas day isself for about an equal length of time.
Then there are besides the fruit and nuts for dessert, and the wine and liquors, and the candles for
the thristmas tree, and immunerable other things
to be looked after and remembered. Verity, this
business of Christmas shopping is an endless though
pleasant and deligation task.

We shad now, in pursuance of our usual custom,
give a list of a lew of the principal stores where

articles appropriate to the season may be profitably purchased. First of all we shall take the leweldy store of Messrs. Thrang & Co., of Union square, which is beyond all question the handsomest store of its kind in the world. Merely as a spectacle, it is well worth a visit. Thousands and thousands of dollars' worth of rich and rare and costly and elegant things dezzle the eye, and even against the will excite the desire of possession. It is worth notice, too, that the contents of this beautiful store are mostly of American manufacture. Especially is this the case with silverware and the finer and most costly stock of jeweiry, and in these lines foreign competition is not only no longer dreased, but orders are even received from abroad for their consumption. American industrial genus was never more successful than in some of the "flushes" put upon the silver—lotably the satin and pear innish—and a giance at the riginality and good taste of some of the designs confirms one's hopes in the future of American art. Some of the showcases devised to gens ensarine almost fabulous wealth, some single brilliants running as high as \$10,000. In imported goods—writing desks, bronzes, vases and all inat class of articles—the stock enormous and the price-reasonable. This is one of the most completely and inity formished stores in New York, and for all goods—writing desks, bronzes, vases and all inat class of articles—the stock enormous and the price-reasonable. This is one of the most completely and inity formished stores in New York, and for all goods—writing desks, bronzes, vases and all that class of articles—the stock enormous and the groce reasonable. This is one of the most completely and inity formished stores in New York, and for all goods—writing desks, bronzes, vases and all that class of articles—the stock enormous and the groce reasonable. This is one of the most available markets.

Mr. Allen's, of \$41 Broadway—though the stock is mostly confined to watches and the finer class of jeweiry—is another store entitled

jeweiry—is another store entitled to confidence and patronage.

Fancy goods, as we showed in the Christmas article in yesterday's Herald, may be advantageously purenssed at most of the great dry goods houses, such as Macy's, Kinzey's, Altman's, Ridiey's and the Union Adams Company. There are a lew stores, however, specially devoted to this class of goods. Among these the French Arcade. \$43 Broadway, contains a singularly beautiful display of a peculiar variety of French, Germaa and English goods. Here may be found an immense assortment of parlor flowerpots, comprising every variety of fancy design. The disque figures, too, are very fine, and by no means costly. There are also some fine specimens of majolica ware and broazes and rancy French clocks and marole statuettes. The original dollar store, under the Grand Central Hotel, is another mart, of a somewhat different kind, which well merits, a visit. It is filled with every variety of elegant trifies, and the throng olvisitors with which it is crowded from morning till late proclaims the popularity of the store and the moderate nature of its prices. At Kelly & Co.'s, No. 861 Broadway, there are some novel and pretty special goods, in adultion to the usual stock of furniture and curtains. Among the rest there are several limes which are especially well adapted as presents to artists. There is a splendid stock of easels and movable frames for portfolios of sketches and prints. In writing desks, secretaries, bookcases and casy chairs the assortment is tasteful and varied.

asset, an immense stock of hew and ligenious toys, as well as a fine stock of Sohemian glassware and similar lines. Their counter of Jolis is alone worth a visit to the store. The sizes vary from almost life size to tiny little things, that are only fitted for a cradie in a dol's house. The dresses this year, too, display exceptionally good taste; they are as perfectly designed as though they had passed through the hands of the celebrated Worth himself. There is a pretty stock of dolis' boots and necessaries, which seem as carefully made and designed as though intended for the use of adults. In games the stock is very large, and many of them are new. The parior croques and unitard sets are a specialty. Some of the prices of Christmas tree ornaments are startling by their cheapness, Fancy forty cents for one hundred and forty-four realty pretty trides. Another novelty are Christmas trees supended from the back of a snow-covered figure of Santa Claus and lighted by gas. Of course a rubber connection with a jet is necessary, but the effect is very good. In all other lines of toys this house presents a large and well-assorted stock.

Strasburger & Pfeiffer have one of the largest

of course a russer connected was a transfer content and all other lines of toys this house presents a large and well-assorted stock.

Strasburger & Preifier have one of the largest toy and lancy stores in the city. Their assortment of musical boxes is very varied, and the prices seem cheaper than we have been accustomed to. In the little triles that are used in the fitting up of dolls' houses, too, the display is perfectly bewildering. Dolls, games, toy guns, magic lanterns, and indeed everything else that has as yet been dreamed of in the way of toys, may also be advantageously bought here. One novelty is a coach in which are scaled some German soldiers, one of whom bears a suspicious likeness to old Kaiser Wilhelm, which, by moving, causes the figures to play like a band. The effect is very good.

William Harwood, of 98 Chamoers street, makes, as usual, a good display of new tha toys. Several improvements in finish and darability upon those put out last year may be observed, among others a new method of the imitation gilding of the main figures. Mali carts, horse cars, locomotives and passenger coaches—all in tin—are very natural, and are of the strongest possible make. This store should be encouraged by the patriotic, too, for it sells chiefy—indeed alimost entirely—American made goods, and they are undoubtedly the best of the kind in the market, as is proved by the host of initiations of them. Mr. Harwood says he will bring out a number of novelties during the coming year, but they must be kept secret for the present, to avoid piracy.

Among retail toy stores Mr. Staveley's, of No. 870 Rrnadway, is worth a visit. The secretary liso present some very attractive mechanical toys, as

present some very attractive mechanical toys, as well as a deserving general stock. His window as daily surrounded by a throng of sightseers, who seem especially delighted at some new steam locomotives, which draw a train of cars over the shop front.

# PURLIC SCHOOL RECEPTIONS IN HARLEN.

A time-hon ored and certainly most pertinent and pleasing preliminary to closing the public schools for the holidays are the receptions now agreeably in vogue. Conducted with the discriminating taste that characterizes most of them, these receptions constitute a decidedly gratifying feature—an oasis, giving vitalizing respite to the stereotype routine of dally duties. Rarely has a more enjoyable reception taken place at any of our public schools than that given yesterday at Grammar School No. 39. This school is located on 125th street, between Second and Third avenues, and excepting the primary department is devoted ex-clusively to the instruction of girls, of whom the average attendance is about six hundred. The reand friends of the pupils and others interested in our public school system. Recitations, singing, reading, compositions and calistaenic exercises made up principally the varied programme. The recitations were admirably selected and rendered with animation. A tiny girl recited "I Want a Piece of Cake," with an appreciative energy elictung universal tokens of surprise and admiration. "Miss Maione's ideas of the Heathen Chinee," as recited by Fannie Brush, could hardly be surpassed. The singing was specially fine, comprising solos, duets and choruses, a portion of them including original music by Mr. Daly, the music teacher, and who certainly cannot be praised too highly for the painstaking in his department. Addle Birdsall and Laura Fay played a duet exquisitely on the piano, and Hattle Holmes a solo with marked feeling and expression. An original poem, "Snow Elves," by Miss Neille Cone, evinced wonderful aptitude of versification, a wealth of imagery and a depth of poetic feeling unusual in one so young. The calisthenics far exceeded any we have ever seen. To the more meritorious in the several classes were distributed semi-annual certificates, the presentation being made by Mr. L. N. Fuller, who presided at the reception, and, by the way, at its close, made one of the best addresses made by Rev. Dr. Raigeway and Revs. Mr. Lucha, Wirgin and McColloch also deserve special encomium for their brevity. Altogether the exercises were of a deeply interecting character, and reflect the highest credit on Miss Marina A. Washburne, Principal, as well as the efficient corps of auxiliary teachers under her.

The Primary Department of Grammar School No. 51, situated in 115th sireet, between Third and Fourth avenues, gave a reception last evening. The room was densely crowded by the parents and friences of the little ones. After an appropriate opening address by Mr. McGhunis, one of the turnetest in public schools, was announced as one of the foremost of our public spirited citizens in his interest in public schools, was announced as one of the speakers, but he was unavoidabl our public school system. Recitations, singing, reading, compositions and calistinenic exercise

### HOLIDAY LITERATURE.

Songs, Stories and Sketches for People of All Ages.

Intellectual Studies for Adults and Gems for Juveniles.

Books are popular and appropriate presents for the holida ys. There are innumerable other articles enter useful or ornamental, or both combined, that are suitable for gifts, according to the tastes of maividuals, but books are never out of place as presents in a country where there is so much gene-rat intelligence as there is in the United States. The province of literature is to amuse or to instruct the n.iud, and when amusement is blended with in-struction, when the lancy is pleased, the intellect enlightened and the moral sentiment of the heart awakened, the highest office of literature is attained. The author assumes a responsible and an important mission to mankind, and while many of the publications of the day fail far below the standard which lovers of literature would delight to see impressed on each printed page, there are every year issued from the press books which may be truly said to be

the near approach of the Christmas and New Year bolidays, authors and publishers are busily engaged in bringing out new books and new editions to tract the attention and suit the sentiments of pur-chasers. There are certain standard works of fact and fiction which are always in demand among a rapidly increasing population, and these the pub-lishers present in various styles to accommodate the purses of richer or poorer people. New books, works of merit, are eagerly sought after by Americans, who are so fond of what is novel, and who buy more books than the inhabitants of any other country in Christendom. The catalogues of prominent publishers contain the titles of new and old productions on all sorts of subjects, from which purchasers must make selections. Many of these we have noticed from time to time, as the first or subsequent editions have been issued; and at the present moment we must conflue ourselves to a passing reference to the more recent publications

Poetry affords a truitful field for artistic illustra. tion, and some of the songs and the stories told in verse, original and selected, which we have received, are interspersed with Illustrations which are beautiful specimens of art. Forty-two of this class of wood engravings, each one of them signal tri nimphs of artistic skill, embellish "THE STORY OF THE FOUNTAIN," by William Cullen Bryant, published by the Appletons. This beautiful little book embodies to a most remarkable degree the barmonious combination of are at once awakened by the title of the volume of selections just reissued by Scribner & Co., under the sympathetic name of "Songs of THE HEART." "Songs of LIFE" and "Songs of Home" have already preceded the present volume in this new, improved and pleasing style, and "Songs of Na-Ture," soon to follow, will complete the series. The poems were first published in one volume, "Folk Bongs," but the four volumes into which they have now been divided, with separate and appropriate titles, will, when completed, comprise not only the original book, but also numerou new poems and illustrations. Love will hear its tender sentiment distinctly echoed in these responsive songs; Joy will hear notes of gladness; Sorrow will receive consolation and hope from the voices of angels and the words of Jesus; aspiring sous will find sympathy and incentive; and all who will may hear the charms of domestic life, the wonders of the universe, the goodness of God and the glories of immortality sung and celebrated. "BALLADS OF IRISH CHIVALRY,"

by Robert Dwyer Joyce, published by Patrick Donahoe, in Boston, contains a voluminous collection o ballads, songs and poems that will appeal to the humorous, affectionate and martial elements, which are prominent characteristics of a race that has so many native representatives and descendants in "OUR PORTICAL FAVORITES" IS among patters, Knox, next to the Herald building, may be mentioned as one of the best and most lashionable makers. We also commend to the patronage of our readers Mr. Espenscheld, of No. 118 Nassau street; Mr. David, No. 299 Broadway; Mr. Burke and Mr. Warnock.

One of the most necessary of articles also to be looxed out for at this time is candles. These may be procured of pure quality and in every variety from Mr. Eberts, of No. 64 Esat Twelth street.

In carriages and sleighs Messrs. Johnston & Van Tassell display a very varied assortiment of goods, and deserve patronage.

Perhaps, however, some of our readers may desire in their presents to select some useful article of furniture. Among the best dealers we may name Mr. Cowperthwaite, 155 Chaitam street; Messrs. Dealer & Charke's, 747 Broadway; D. Edily, 512 Eighth avenue; Clarke's, 747 Broadway; D. Edily, 512 Eighth avenue; Last, but not least, we may give a last of some of the best piano makers. No present could be more acceptable to a young long of to a young could be more acceptable to a young long of to a young could be more acceptable to a young long of to a young could be more acceptable to a young long of to a young could be more acceptable to a young long of to a young could be more acceptable to a young long of to a young could be more acceptable to a young long of to a young could be more acceptable to a young long of the Scienway plano it may be mentioned that one was lately ordered by the Emperor of Russia. Messrs. Decker & Barnes are also making instruments of excellent tone and great durability. They have recently perfected a new pin block arrangement, which greatly adds to the sirength of the piano, and which threatens to revolutionize the old process of manufacture. attractive title given to the selection made by Professor Asauci C. Kendrick, of the Rochester University, from the best minor poems on the opposite pages, appear in one duodecimo volume, issued by Köhler, of Philadelphia. The idea of the publisher has been to present in a handy form an elegant and correct collection of the poetic productions of that pure-minded German genius. The arrangement of the volume will afford much pleasure to those who wish to compare the original with the translations. POEMS FOR THE MILLION" comprise the miscel aneous pieces contributed from time to time by Francis S. Smith to the columns of the New York Weekly newspaper, which are now for the flist time collected, and published for the author by the American News Company. "DREAM LIFE AND OTHER just published by Claxton, Remsen & Harelinger of Philadelphia. The verses are for the most parcal. "SHORT POEMS FOR SHORT PROFER," by Edgar Pawcett, published by Francis B. Felt & Co., is, as its title indicates, a collection of original little poems suitable for children. The subjects are various and the style is easy and simple. Many of them have hitherto appeared in various magazines and journals and are now collected and published by permission. A pretty little story in verse for

Christmas Eve, written by Edward Abbott and published by Randolph & Co., is entitled "The BABY's THINGS," and is designed to illustrate the beneficence of charity-that "'tis more blessed to give than to receive." Successful efforts have been made in recent years to render science popular. Lectures and books upon different scientific subjects have contributed materially to unveil the wonders and ties that ile hidden in agencies and objects with which we have seemed to be familiar. The domain of science is an extensive one, including as it does the earth, the sea, the air, all forms of animal and vegetable life, the stellar universe and the aspirations of the human mind to understand all the laws of nature and even unravel the mysteries of the Infinite. In "FIRESIDE SCIENCE," pub lished by Hurd & Houghton, we have a series of popular scientific essays by Professor James R. Nichols upon subjects connected with the every-day affairs of individuals and families. The author has confined himself principally to plain and practical observations upon chemistry, and has presented in this instructive and interesting little volume some of the deductions of the science and its bearings upon hygiene and the useful arts. Agriculturists will find much important informa-tion in these unpretending pages, and the general reader will be charmed with the remarks upon familiar subjects, and especially with the brief but sparkling essay on "the lost arts." "THE WONDERS OF THE WATER," translated from the French of Gaston Tissandier by Dr. Schele de Vere, of the

marvels of the ocean, the system of circulation of water in rivers and the atmosphere, the mechanical and chemical action of water on continents, the physical and chemical properties of water, and the uses to which it may be applied. The appendix the uses to which it may be a plied. The appendix contains analyses of various mineral waters in the United States. The book is highly interesting and the text is interspersed with several illustrations. A more thoroughly scientific and much more elaborate work, however, issued by the same publishers, is a large octavo volume of 760 pages, entitled "Insects at Hone," by the Rev. J. G. Wood, author of several works on kinderst tower. of several works on kindred topics. It is at once a scientific and popular account of the structure, habits and transformations of insects, and is the result of the author's life-long, persevering and patient study of entomology. The book is embellished by a brilliantly illuminated frontispiece, a score of spiendid full page plates and a profusion of less elaborate but not less finely finished woodcuts, showing upward of seven hundred figures of insects. it is an exhaustive treatise on the subject and is among the most valuable of all the publications we have seen issue; from the press on the eve of the and elegance will be well repaid by the perusal of Processor Bascom's lectures on "ESTHETICS; OR, THE SCIENCE OF BEAUTY." In the present edition of his lectures, which are now cor-rected and enlarged as the fruits of further thought and new opportunities for ob-servation, Professor Sascom defines and illustrates the nature and principles of Taste and Beauty in their multiferious physical, intellectual and moral asapplication, po nts out its important and proper in fluence upon landscape gardoning, architecture, sculpture, painting and poetry, and fitty closes his highly interesting observations upon Beauty with a beautiful apostrophe to Truth.

"THE WONDERS OF THE YOSEMITE VALLEY AND of California," the text by Professor Samuel Kneeland, with original photographic illustrations by John P. Soule, and recently published by Alexander Moore, of Boston, forms a handsome gift book for the season. North America is profife in magnificent natural scenery, but it is in the Far West, among and beyond the Booky Mountains and the among and beyond the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevadas, that the majestic monuments of the physical creation appear in their greatest sub-limity. Many of the wonders of that rugged region are minutely described and accurately illustrated be particularly appreciated by all lovers of the grand and beautiful in mature, and especially of mountain scenery unparalleled in the world; and to such this souvenir of the Sierras is inscribed. "Box-DEE REMINISCENCES," by General Marcy, Inspector General of the United States Army, just published by the Harpers, contains a host of numorous sketches and very funny stories, and concludes with some cerning the rapid settlement of the new Northwest and the routes of the different Pacific railroads.

Among the most facinating and facetious books of travel is "THE AMERICAN TOUR OF MESSES. BROWN, JONES AND ROSINSON," ISSUED by Appleton. It is a pictorial history of what they saw and did in the United States, Canada and Cuba, and will afford an all but inexnaustible fund for merriment to the overs of the humorous. The pages are quarto size, and contain a curious collection of every variety of inimitable fun-provoking sketches. In a handy, small-sized duodecimo, pub-lished by Lee & Shepard, both in Boston and New York, Professor James de Mille relates in an amusing manner the strange adventures of "THE YOUNG DODGE CLUB AMONG THE BRIGANDS." Both the last-named publications are very entertaining for white the lun of the former is apparent in the pictures, the humor of the latter centres in the more of the reality is, that in another volume of Thomes' Ocean Life series, which also comes from the press of Lee & shepard. Mr. Thomes is the author of several previously published and successful seafaring stories, and the Professes to describe "THE WHALEMAN'S ADVEN-TURES IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS AND CALIFOR-NIA." As the marrative proceeds the interest

increases, and youthful readers will sit enchanted from the bestaning antil the whole of the yarn of the Boston boy is ended.

There are a few volumes of a more serious and substantial nature, mention of which must not be omitted. First among these is "The Bow in the OLOUD," a book of short essays on religious subjects, by the Right Rev. William Bacon, Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, and published in Philadelphia by the Hubbard Brothers. The essays are arranged under the general heads of Affliction, Resignation, Comfort, Leaning on the Beloved and The Sleep in Jesus; and each is followed by short scriptural and poetical selections. The book is elegantly illustrated and beautifully It contains a large amount of profitable reading, is full of consolation for the sorrowful, and will be reverentially perused by those who are religiously

"GENTLE MEASURES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE Young," by Jacob Abbott, published by the Harpers, is an argument presented in a very fami-liar style, intended to demonstrate the principles lished and maintained without violence or anger, and the right development of the moral and mental capacities be promoted by methods in harmony with the structure and the characteristics of the juvenile mind. We commend Gentle Measures" to the earnest attention of parents and guardians. From the Harpers also we have a thoughtful volume from the pen of Gail Hamilton, entitled "WOMAN'S WORTH AND WORTHLESS-NESS," in which she discusses social subjects, par-ticularly the woman question, from a reasonable who fancy the writings of Gail Hamilton will be glad to find her serial sketches on the topics treated. collected and arranged in this more convenient and enduring form.
"DEMOREST'S FASHION MAGAZINE AND YOUNG

AMERICA," bound in the choicest holiday style, with chromos set in the covers, and everything that can please the feminine and infantile mind inside, esides large framed chromo lithographs as premiums for each purchaser, are among the illumi-

nated literature for the holidays. There are among the holiday publications quite a large number of gems of all descriptions for the ju-veniles. Three little story books, printed and bound in uniform style, by De Witt C. 451 Broome street, and called the Oakhurst Library, are entitled respectively "LAWRENCE LISTON, JR., "OAKHURST: WHAT HARRY AND I DID THERE"-(both by the same author, "M. L. R. S.")—and "Fa-BLES FOR LITTLE FOLKS," by "Leat."

Each tale contains a moral, and no doubt You all have wit enough to nnd them out. Five entertaining stories for the young folks, by

Katherine Saunders, are published in one volume by George Routledge & Sons, under the curious title of the first of these tales, which is called "THE HAUNTED CRUST." The other stories are "Joan Puzzle," and "Gentle Jack." Dodd & Mead publish the story of "IHE OLD BACK ROOM," by Jennie Harrison, a book more especially for boys, though it has "A Chapter to the Girls" in it. The girls will be apt to inquire why only one maining thirty-six might be considered more par-ticularly intended for the boys. Macmillan & Co. pubsmail size quartos, entitled "THE LOST CHILD," "LITTLE LUCY'S WONDERFUL GLOSE" and "PUSS AND ROBIN," the two former in prose and the latter in rhymes. A charming story for larger children, by the author of "When I was a Little Girl," published in equally elegant style, also by Macmillan, is christened "Nine Years Old." Two other little story books—"The VAGABOND," and "CLAUDE SPENCER AND WAD-DLES" (under one cover) both by Mrs. F. Marshall Ward, published by T. Whittaker & Company, Bible House, complete our present list of tales in prose for children. "THE LADY ELGIVA" a Christmas Myth in verse, by the author of "Bertha Weisser's Wish," is the last and the least in size of all the holiday books for boys and girls that have been placed upon our table. In the splendid establish nents of the various publishers and booksellers, however, will be found hundreds of other works, suitable for people of all tastes and ages, and some of them may be even more attractive than several University of Virginia, published by Charles Scrib-ner & Co., gives us a comprehensive insight into the

# ART MATTERS.

Exhibition of Water Colors at Suedecor's

Chillery.

There is perhaps no department of art which perhaps no department of art which perhaps are department of a perhaps There is perhaps no department of art which pos-sesses so much charm for the general public as and simplicity characterize both the subjects and their treatment that those who can admire beauty without too clearly comprehending it find themselves more at their case before those exquisite little sketches of nature produced with a brillancy and tenderness of color that is rarely jound in the stronger and more durable paint-ing in oil. Water color painting owes its recoming in oil. Water color painting owes its popularity to this quality of exquisite delicacy of color, which harmonizes so well with our most refined

and percention of tints, which cannot be conveyed with the same richness and delicacy by any other process. In the present exhibition we meet with a number of examples by artists of well-estabnumber of examples by artists of well-estab-lished reputation in the different genres. Some 'Flower Studies," by De Longrepres, carefully drawn and very brilliant in color. Excellent taste has been displayed in the selection of the flowers of gentie contrasts, without disturbing the harmony of the general effect. Several landscapes by Martin, are full of charming feeling. One very cool bit, with water in the foreground and groups of trees in the middle distance, exhibits thorough sympathy with what is poetle in country scenery, and has been carefully and effectively composed. The modelling of the hill form in the background and the distribution of light and shade evidence knowledge and feel-ing on the part of the artist. The sense of

tone of the picture is almost too cold. Another landscape by the same artist, with a subset effect, is treated with
treated with

A TENDER THOUGHTFULNESS

that reveals poetic feeling in the artist. This quality—necessary in all departments of art—is absolutely essential it landscape, and it is to its absolutely essential it landscape, and it is to its absolutely essential it landscape, and it is to its absolutely essential it landscape, and it is to its absoluted that we owe so many pointings which, though exhibiting skill in the execution, fail to move or impress us because they are wanting in the quality of sympathy which is the very soul of true art. In this sunset the artist makes amends for the coldness of his coloring in the painting we have just noticed. The distant borizon is based in crimson thits by the departing sun and the snadows which are gradually stealing over the foreground of the landscape. Perhaps the most important work in the gatiery is Vibert's "Spanish Monk," which is well known through the engravings. This example is full of the drollery, at times a little grotesque, which runs through hearly all Vibert's works. The two monks returning from market are capitally drawn, and the coarse, voluptuous nature of the one on foot, who directs a look of very earthly admiration in the direction of the peasant girl who stands close to the wall to allow the monks to puss. We cannot say that this work belongs to a high class of art, because

THE ESSANTIAL OF ALL TRUE ART is truth and purity, and in this we have only a pandering to a vugar prejudice. In point of execution, however, the work possesses a great deal of merit. The figures are well drawn and the group capitally composed. He must be a duit person indeed who requires any explanation of the story sought to be conveyed. Another example by the same artist presents an old gentleman of the past century after what has evidently been an excellent repast, and the old fellow is lying back in his calar at peace with himself and with all the world. Berne

repast, and the old fellow is lying back in his clair at peace with himself and with all the world, lighten efflecting contributes several subjects, which dasplay considerable artistic power. The most claborate of these is an interior, in which a lady is regarding a parrot. Some houses and trees whose bare branches and frosty aspect tell us that it is winter, are seen through a window. There is no story, and the picture depends, like so many MOPERN PANYINGS, entirely on the skill displayed in its execution to interest us. In the present work there is a reposer ul sentiment about the composition that is very pleasing. The details have been painted with great care. Another work by the same artist, which we like much better, is a love-making scene by a beau of the olden time. The composition conveys all the story, and the figures are firmly and naturally drawn. The lady's dress is painted with rare force and brilliancy of color. There are quite a number of other works which are worthy of notice, but we are compelled by want of space to pass them by. The exhibition of water colors is quite a novelty, as our galleries are almost wholly devoted to the display of paintings in oil, to the neglect of this important and delightful branch of the fine arrs, in Engiand and France water color painting disputes the public favor with much success with its more powerful rival, and there is no doubt that the introduction of good examples of this school litto America will have the effect of developing a taste for these lighter works among our people. The present collection will well repay a visit.

A number of paintings by European and American artists will be offered for sale at Schenck's auction large, but the names of the artists are familiar to the public. There are no works of extraordinary merit, but there are many pleasing and effective pictures. Among these, "New York Bay," by E. Moran, deserves special mention as a carefully excellence in the water treatment which is found in rare effectiveness. The subject is a good one, and well handled. "A Coast Scene," by Mr. Heade, is also well worthy of notice, displaying excellent judgment in the painting of still water. This artist seems to have adopted his style from Whistler, an American artist, whose painting of English river scenes attracted much attention to England a few years ago. He is, however, wanting in the force and depth of color which distinguish the very original works of Mr. Whistler. "The Lit

in the force and depth of color which distinguish the very original works of Mr. Whister. "The Little Laundress," by Arnaux, "The Card Players" and "Tessing Polly," by Whiems, with a low other works, complete the foreign representation. A lorge number of our native artists are also represented. One good feature in the collection is that all the works are original. Most of the interior works were disposed of at yesterday's sale at remarkably low prices. Indeed, the problem of life must be a very difficult one with our young aspirants to art honors if all their productions sell as cheaply as those which air. Schenck disposed of yesterday.

MINER'S SALESROOM.

A collection of some hundred paintings will be sold to-lay at this auction room. Most of the works make no claim to originality and mere; purport to be copies from the masterpieces of the Old World. Some men walk boldly "where angels lear to tread," and these works furnish us with an excelent exemplification of the proverb. Those at all conversant with art know the difficulties that attend the copying of a Murnio, Guido, Grenze or a Remberand, and how the greatest artists of modern times lay down their palettes and abandon the unequal struggle. Opies after the old masters, even by those distinguished in art, always are unsatisfactory work after men altogether unknown. But we suppose that there are people whose taste leads them to prefer indifferent copies of great works to less pretentious contemporary works. There are in the collection a number of water color paintings by Cattermole, R. A., and Hayes, R. H. A., and Clarke, R. A., which possess a great deal of mert. "Sounding the charge" is a spirited composition, and "The Monk's Blessing." by the same artist, displays deep feeling and effective color, some very meritorious marine paintings by liayes and one or two examples by Clarke, are sufficient to lend interest to the collection.

# PREE FIGHT IN A GIN MILL.

Eye-Gonging, Cannibalism and Clubbing-A

Policeman In a Tight Corner.

The liquor store on the northwest corner of Pittyfourth street and Second avenue, owned by Jerry on Wednesday afternoon. Several persons were engaged in "chucking" dice when a misunderstand-ing arose between two of the parties, the result of ing arose between two of the parties, the result of which was a free fight of the roughest and most exciting description—something on the Kentucky style. Eye-gouging, nose-biting clubbing and tumbling of the highest order were indulged to, with zest and great freedom, until Officer Riordan, of the Nineteanth preciact, put in appearance on the scene of battle. He made a laint artempt at questing the row, when those who were heretofore fighting among themselves now turned upon him, and after knocking him down three or four times took his club away and would have used him pretty roughly out for the interference of the two bartenders, with wnose assistance he succeeded in arrosing Patrick Walsh, William Quirk and Walter Butier, who were locked up. Walsh mad a bad out on his head, besides having one of his ears badly caten. Quirk had also a severe cut on the head. The three were yesterday taken before Alderman Plunkitt, at the Yorkville Police Court, where Butier was discharged and the other two held to ball to answer.

# "NOBBY CLARK" AGAIN IN TROUBLE.

William Harding, alias "Nobby Clark," one of the most expert pickpockets in the city, was arraigned before Justice Cox at Jefferson Market yesterday morning. Theodore W. Todd, of 77 Front street, charges that on Wednesday night, while on the reas charges that on Welliesday night, while on the rear platierm of one of the New Haven Railroad cars, Har-ding and a companion shoved against him. He felt for his waltet, containing \$.6 in money, and found it missing. He immediately seized Harding and handed him over to the custody of Officer Evans, of the Twenty-minth precinct. His accompines sin-ceeded in making his secape with the plunder. He denied the charge, but was locked up for examina-tion.